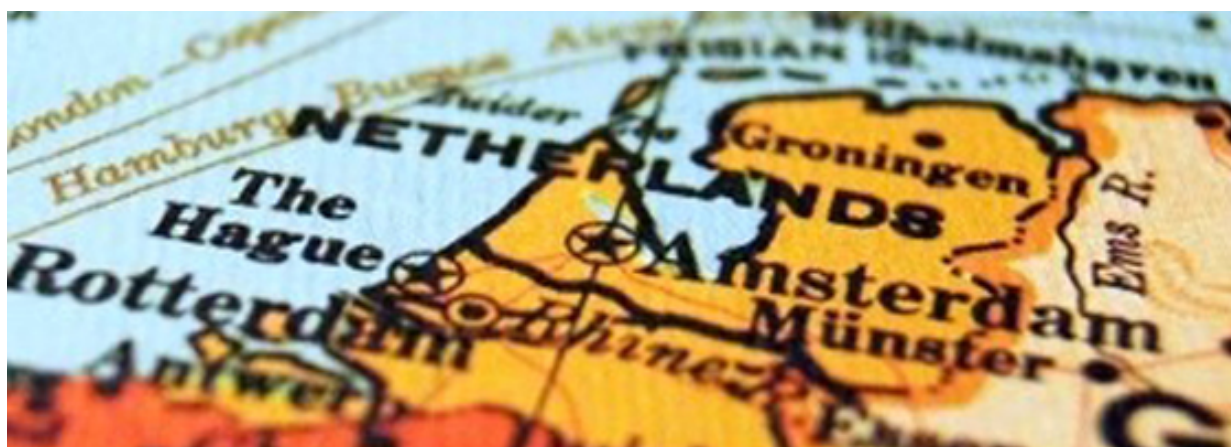




UvA Start Newsletter

no. 5 - 10 August 2023



Get Ready!

Dear **student**,

August is well on its way and the start of the academic year is fast approaching! If there are still a few things on your checklist, feel free to attend our [Arrival webinar \(15/16 August\)](#). Prefer to talk face-to-face? Don't hesitate to **see us at the Arrival Desk on 21 August and 4 September**. We will be happy to answer any remaining questions upon arrival.

Find more details on uva.nl/uponarrival →



Student Associations

Studying is about much more than just your education. Each study programme has its own association that organises social events and offers book discounts for its members. You will receive more information about this during the introduction of your study programme.

Perhaps, **you might be interested in joining an association** that shares your interest, orientation, mindset or background. There are plenty to choose from and many like-minded people to meet!

In addition, there are student unions like [ASVA](#), which represent the interests of all students. Student associations such as [ESN](#) look after the interests of international students.

Find your student association →



Opening a Dutch bank account

Once in the Netherlands, you might find it to be helpful to open a Dutch bank account. International money transfers can be expensive, and credit cards are not always accepted. **A Dutch debit card allows you to pay at**

supermarkets, cafes and restaurants easily and free of charge. There are several points to consider when choosing the right bank for you.

[Read about opening a Dutch bank account →](#)



International Student Ambassadors: ask your questions

[Message only sent to Bachelor's and Master's students]

Would you like to know what it's like to study at the University of Amsterdam? In our series of ASK videos, topics like study load, the Dutch grading system and the academic year's structure are covered. **Watch the videos on our [YouTube channel](#).**

Our international student ambassadors are here to answer all your questions. You can contact them any time via chat, and they'll get back to you within 48 hours. Also, make sure to check out the blog section, which includes lots of helpful tips for applicants and new students.

[Ask a question and read student blogs →](#)

Would you like to become an international student ambassador yourself?

[Submit your application and join the team! →](#)

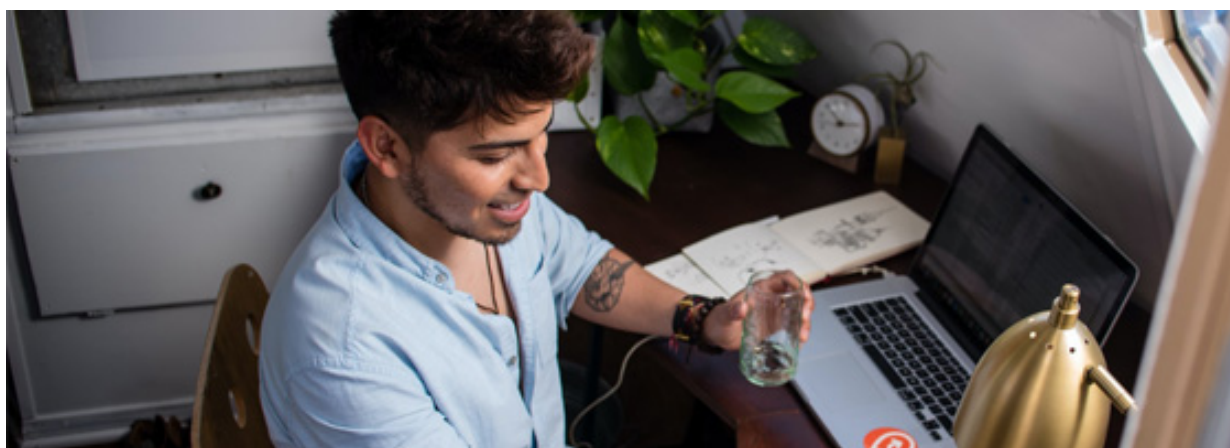


Exchange Ambassadors

[Message only sent to exchange students]

Would you like to meet local and international students and befriend students from a range of different countries? Would you like to expand your volunteer experiences, enhance your professional skills, and participate in a meaningful project during your exchange in Amsterdam? Then **join the UvA international student community** and sign up to be an Exchange Ambassador!

[Exchange Ambassadors Programme](#) →



Tips for your safety

Amsterdam is a small city with a pleasant atmosphere where you will soon feel at home. Recently, it was ranked as one of the safest cities worldwide and the second safest city in Europe. However, incidents do occur, so **it is recommended to take some safety precautions:**

- Always watch your belongings, especially in crowded places, bus stops, when you're on public transport, shopping and so on – pickpockets may be active.

- Avoid walking or cycling alone in poorly lit and unpopulated areas after dark.
- Do not use ATMs at night in quiet areas.
- Bike theft is common in Amsterdam. If you have a bicycle, make sure to always lock both the wheel and frame properly, preferably by locking it in a bike rack.

The **emergency number for the Netherlands is 112**. Non-emergency is 0900-8844, or if you're outside the Netherlands +31 (0)34 357-8844.

[Find police stations in Amsterdam →](#)



Public transport card with a discount

UvA collaborates with Student Mobility to provide **international students easy access to all forms of transport in the Netherlands**. With Student Mobility you can receive a customized public transport card (+ an ISIC Student-ID) with special discounts for international students. You can use this card for trains, trams, metro and buses.

Next to the card there are discounts on a bike plan and your first train ticket from the airport once you arrive in the Netherlands. [Sign up or order now](#) and we will inform you in time about the pick-up in Amsterdam or your delivery options.



Join our international Summer Party in Melkweg!

For all international students!

Friday 25 August 2023, doors open at 23:00, tickets start at 9 euros.

[Get your tickets now! →](#)



Wireless internet

When you are in one of the university's buildings, you can always connect to the Open-Wi-Fi network. Simply activate the correct settings and use your UvAnetID (student number) to gain access. **More secure and suitable for sending sensitive information is 'Eduroam'**. To use the Eduroam network, provided collaboratively by an international group of higher education institutions, you will need to install the software.

[Check out how to connect →](#)

Not starting your studies in September?

Are you enrolled on a full Bachelor's or Master's programme (non-exchange), and will you not be starting your studies in the academic year 2023-2024? **Please, cancel your enrolment request in Studielink.** This helps the UvA determine how

many students to expect. It will prevent you from receiving further email reminders about your enrolment. Go to Studielink and select the programme for which you wish to disenroll and click 'cancel'. Next, check the box 'I confirm that I wish to cancel my enrolment (application)' and click 'confirm'.

[Go to Studielink →](#)



Instagram Countdown Calendar

Just a little while longer and then a whole new life chapter begins! To get you started, we'll be sharing everything you need to know about student life in Amsterdam via our Instagram (@uva_amsterdam) channel. Get tips on how to ride a bike, share a request or question with fellow students, discover the best spots on campus and see what sports or cultural activities you can do in your free time. **The countdown to the new academic year starts on 13 August.** See you on Instagram!

[Follow us on Instagram →](#)

University of Amsterdam

Editors: UvA Student Services. Contact us through the [UvA Central Student Service Desk](#).

You are receiving this newsletter to help you prepare for your study programme at the University of Amsterdam, once every two or three weeks, from June up to the first week of September.

Images: UvA Beeldbank, Unsplash and Freepik.



If you no longer want to receive this newsletter: [unsubscribe here](#)